

SITUATION REPORT NO. 11
INCIDENT NO. 2006-016
DATE: April 28, 2006 Time: 4:30 p.m.

TO: Governor John Hoeven
State Capitol
Bismarck ND 58505

1. **NATURE OF DISASTER:** **Spring Flooding/Severe Storms** – The rapid snowmelt of heavy winter snow accumulations, compounded by spring rains, snow storms and sudden warm temperatures, is causing spring flooding in the Red River Valley. Additionally, snow and rain storms have disrupted power supplies and stranded motorists in western North Dakota.
2. **DEATHS AND INJURIES:** No change from previous reports.
3. **DAMAGES:**

Flood Projections by River (updated April 28 at 12:00 p.m.)

For more information log on to <http://www.crh.noaa.gov/ahps2/index.php?wfo=fgf>

Major Flooding
Moderate Flooding
Minor Flooding
Near Flood Stage
No Flooding

				FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI
Location	Flood Stage	Crest	Date	April 28	April 29	April 30	May 1	May 2	May 3	May 4	May 5
Red River at Drayton	32 feet	42.90 ft	4/11	36.6 feet	35.8 feet	35 feet	34.1 feet	33.2 feet	32.2 feet	31.3 feet	30.3 feet
Red River at Pembina	49 feet	51.44 ft	4/13	46.5 feet	46.4 feet	45.7 feet	45.1 feet	44.6 feet	44 feet	43.4 feet	42.9 feet
Pembina River at Neche	18 feet	23-23 ft	4/25	18.6 feet	18.4 feet	18.2 feet	18 feet	17.8 feet	17.6 feet	17.4 feet	17.1 feet
Willow Creek at Willow City	10 feet	14.08 ft	4/3	11.4 feet	11.4 feet	11.2 feet	11.1 feet	not listed	not listed	not listed	not listed

The State Operations Center (SOC) received the following reports from local Emergency Managers:

Bowman County

On April 25, the Emergency Manager reported a powerful spring storm began on April 18 and continued until April 19. Wet heavy snows accumulations that averaged between four to 24 inches were reported across the entire county, with the most snowfall reported in the central to western part of the county. Snowfall was accompanied by 30 to 34 mile per hour (mph) east and northeasterly winds with higher gusts up to 42 mph during the evening and nighttime hours on April 18. On April 19, winds had diminished to a sustained 20 to 22 mph throughout the day. Blowing and drifting snow hampered visibility and travel throughout April 18 and into April 19. Snow and ice accumulations combined with high winds downed Slope Electric power lines and hindered electrical crews' efforts to restore power to those farmsteads without power. 15 farmsteads remained without power until April 21. Montana Dakota Utilities also had several short-term power failures affecting city residents and businesses on April 18. Schools were let out early in Rhame, Scranton, and Bowman on April 18 due to safety concerns created by the severe weather. Rhame and Bowman schools remained closed April 19, while Scranton held classes with limited bus services. A no travel advisory was issued by the Sheriffs Office on April 18, as heavy snow began to accumulate on roads and highways. U.S. Highway 85 north and U.S. Highway 12 east of Bowman was plowed and passable by April 19, however, roads to the south and west remained closed. Many area ranchers are still in full calving season and have reported several livestock (calf and sheep) losses during the storm. No accurate counts are available as snow drifts still remain in pastures; ranchers have yet to assess all of their losses.

McKenzie County

On April 20, the Emergency Manager reported six power poles were downed leaving 125 rural residents without power. The County Sheriffs Department issued a no travel advisory on U.S. Highway 85 south of Watford City on April 18, due to heavy slush on the roads making for slippery driving conditions.

Pembina County

On April 25, the Emergency Manager reported the following road conditions: County Road 55 between the junction of County Road 2 and State Highway 18 reopened. County Road 55 from N.D. Highway 18 to Interstate 29 is still closed with water over the road in areas. Minnesota Highway 171 access between Pembina, N.D. and St. Vincent, MN. is now open to all traffic, as are N.D. Highway 5 access between Joliette N.D. and Hallock Mn; and N.D. Highway 66 access between Drayton, N.D. and Robin, MN. County Road 12 at Leroy has also reopened to traffic.

4. RESOURCES:

LOCAL: No change from previous reports.

STATE: No change from previous reports.

FEDERAL: No change from previous reports.

5. VOLUNTEER ACTION: No change from previous reports.
6. MAJOR ACTIONS: On April 28, Governor John Hoeven announced the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), in partnership with local, state and federal officials, will conduct a formal Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA). The assessment has been scheduled for May 2, 2006, for 15 counties and one tribal reservation reporting storm and flood damage. Jurisdictions identified for the PDA include Bowman, Cass, Cavalier, Divide, Grand Forks, McKenzie, Pembina, Ransom, Richland, Rolette, Sargent, Towner, Traill, Walsh and Williams counties, and the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa tribal nation.

On April 27, Governor John Hoeven requested the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) support local and state officials in conducting a formal Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) for counties reporting storm and flood damage. Jurisdictions included in the PDA request include Cass, Cavalier, Divide, Grand Forks, Pembina, Ransom, Richland, Rolette, Sargent, Towner, Traill, Walsh and Williams counties, however, additional counties and tribal reservations may be added as weather conditions and damage reports dictate.

Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa

On April 26, the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Tribal Council signed an emergency declaration for damages resulting from spring flooding.

N.D. Department of Transportation (NDDOT)

The NDDOT has re-opened ND 66 to all traffic between Drayton and the Red River on April 27.

The NDDOT has re-opened ND 18 to all traffic from Neche to the Canadian border. The roadway was re-opened to all traffic from ND 5 to Neche on Saturday, April 22.

Bowman County

On April 20, the county commissioners for Bowman County signed an emergency declaration for damages to property, livestock, and power transmission infrastructure due to the April 18-19 spring snowstorm.

McKenzie County

On April 28, McKenzie County Commissioners signed an emergency declaration for damages to power transmission infrastructure and impacts to the available public resources from the April 18-19 spring snowstorm.

The ND Department of Transportation (NDDOT) was called in to plow roads so that McKenzie Electric repair personnel could get to the downed lines.

Pembina County

On April 28, the Emergency Manager reported that all access points in the county into Minnesota are now open.

Ransom County

On April 18, county commissioners signed an emergency declaration for damages resulting from spring flooding.

Sargent County

On April 18, county commissioners signed an emergency declaration for damages resulting from spring flooding.

Walsh County

On April 28 the Emergency Manager reported the county began to move debris off of County Road 2 on April 20. The road is officially still closed, but local traffic has one lane of travel. County Roads 15 (East of Warsaw) and County Road 4 (South of Warsaw) were opened on April 24. County and townships have begun removing debris and preliminary repairs to roads. Currently all residents have some type of access to their farmsteads. County, Townships, Water Board, Cities, and Park Boards are all conducting Preliminary PDAs

Williams County

On April 24, the county commissioners for Williams County signed an emergency declaration for damages to power transmission and transportation infrastructure resulting from the April 18-19 spring snowstorm. The Emergency Manager reported power has been restored to all residential customers.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: No change from previous reports.
8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: No change from previous reports.
9. OTHER INFORMATION: A complete list of road conditions is available at the NDDOT website at www.state.nd.us/dot/.

The N.D. Division of Homeland Security's Situation Reports are posted on the Division's Internet home page. The address is <http://www.state.nd.us/des>.

Greg Wilz, Director
N.D. Division of Homeland Security